

saw enough to read tolerably well even with the injured eye, but he occasionally saw objects double, or in a reversed position.

Remarks.—In this case the cure was incomplete, but still the influence produced by cauterizing the cornea was evident. It may be presumed, perhaps, that electricity was here the active agent in the improvement of sight; but M. DEMOURS, who has often tried it in cases of mydriasis, asserts that the benefit which arises from it is but momentary, and that, when he employed it, the pupil, in a few minutes was as much dilated as before, and the patient no longer able to read. The slowness with which vision was improved in this instance, by showing the severity of the injury, proves the power of the remedy. It is very clear that we had not here to contend with simple and temporary dilatation of the pupil. That the retina must have sustained considerable injury, is proved by the imperfect manner in which its functions are still performed. The inflammation which succeeds the application of the caustic, is not of frequent occurrence, and is usually slight, if care be taken that the cornea alone is touched, and only upon some points of its circumference. In this case, it was necessary that the whole circumference of the cornea should be cauterized, and it was therefore unlikely that the conjunctiva should not be affected by the nitrate of silver.

CASE III.—An old soldier, of the name of Hodge, after much fatigue and exposure to severe weather, was attacked with a sudden dizziness and loss of sight of the right eye. Vision was soon restored, but from this time the eye grew daily weaker. The slightest cause, as sneezing, for example, obscured his sight. The right eye was principally affected; and, towards dusk in the evening, he could with difficulty see his way. The pupil was considerably dilated. Such was the state of the man when he was admitted into the hospital. On the following day, without any previous treatment, the cornea was cauterized: slight inflammation followed. *The pupil contracted naturally*, and, in proportion as the sensibility of the eye diminished, he could distinguish objects more clearly, and at a greater distance. As this man now left the hospital contrary to the wish of the surgeons, the further progress of his case cannot be reported.

Remarks.—This case affords an additional proof of the influence of caustic upon the iris, when applied to the cornea. It is necessary to observe, that the cornea easily recovers its transparency where it has been cauterized. In none of the above cases did there remain the slightest trace of the application of the nitrate of silver. This, indeed, is not astonishing, when we remember that this caustic will remove spots from the cornea. We lately saw a patient at Paris, whom several surgeons of the city had abandoned, the transparency of whose cornea was nearly restored by frequent cauterizations, which were directed by Professor Lallemand.

With respect to the nature of the cases we have detailed, it is evident that the third was one of hemeralopia; but the first and second must be considered as instances of amaurosis, produced by contusion of the globe of the eye.

31. Case of Fungus of the globe of the Eye successfully extirpated. By W. TWING, Esq.—A healthy, but rather slight made Hindoo, about 50 years of age, applied at the Eye Infirmary on the 17th February, 1826, having a fungus that protruded from between the right eyelids, larger than an egg: it was of a red colour, hard, and its surface irregular or granular, like a firm cauliflower, and when handled or pressed, there was little bleeding, but always a puriform discharge.

The tumour appeared to grow from the whole of the eyeball: it was moveable, and its base was firmly girt by the eyelids, but not attached to them: in fact there was no very strong attachment apparent, except at the lachrymal gland. It filled the whole front of the orbit, and protruding as above stated, was not only a hideous deformity, but was productive of severe pain in the

orbit and head. The weight and pressure of the protruded portion of the tumour which rested on the cheek, had there caused ulceration of the skin. The disease had been 14 months in arriving at this state, and was preceded by inflammation, which the man said arose from a particle of straw blown into his eye by the wind.

On the 5th of March, I extirpated the disease with a common scalpel. The base of the tumour was so firmly girt by the aperture of the eyelids, that an incision was first requisite from the outer corner of the eye towards the temple, so as to give more room for the operation, which was then accomplished in less than a minute by a few strokes of the knife. Two arteries bled freely, and were secured by ligatures. A piece of lint was placed over the closed lids, and over that a sponge retained by a bandage.

There was no unfavourable symptom afterwards, and the patient was discharged cured at the end of the month. This man presented himself at the Eye Infirmary a few days ago, (February, 1827,) remaining quite well; and there does not appear any tendency to a return of the disease.

After the operation, on making an incision across the tumour, it was found of a firm granular texture throughout; and in its centre the remains of the eye were very evident. The whole globe of the eye, with a portion of the optic nerve, were removed.—*Trans. Med. and Phys. Society of Calcutta, Vol. III.*

32. *Absorption of the Iris.*—Mr. MIDDLEMORE, assistant surgeon to the Birmingham Eye Infirmary, states that he has several times known laceration of the iris from local injury, followed by its partial, and in one instance, its total absorption; and in every case that the organ so injured, has eventually, become amaurotic.

A boy, he says, received a blow upon the eye, from a piece of metal, which was followed by considerable pain and inflammation, and laceration of the iris; for a time, the pupil was cordiform, being pointed at its lower part; slowly and without any pain the whole of the iris was absorbed, and the eye became amaurotic.—*The Midland Medical and Surgical Reporter, Feb. 1831.*

33. *Congenital Malformation of the Cornea and Sclerotica.*—The following case is related by Mr. MIDDLEMORE, in the *Midland Medical and Surgical Reporter* for February last.

A servant of a chemist of this town, 22 years old, has a small excrescence on the left eye, arising from the cornea and sclerota at its temporal side: it has a white, smooth, and convex surface, and in its centre there is a small depression, from which several strong black hairs arise, which incline downwards, so as to hang over the lower lid; it is firm to the touch, and densely opaque, and appears to be covered by the sclerotic conjunctiva; the surrounding cornea and sclerota preserve their natural structure; he says that the blemish was born with him, and that the hairs began to plague him only a few years ago. This man usually calls upon me for the purpose of having the hairs removed, about every six weeks; and it is my intention to apply the nitrate of silver to the cavities containing the bulbs of the largest hairs, when I next extract them, and if this does not succeed, to dissect them out, if it can be accomplished without any danger of penetrating the globe.

In this case, the tumour had an equal origin from the cornea and sclerota; it was extremely firm to the touch; it had increased with the growth of other parts; the hairs did not appear to produce inconvenience until the period of puberty, and they were of the same colour, and had the same inclination, as those of the lower eye-lid. As this is the only instance I have met with of a congenital malformation of this description, it is impossible for me to say how far the circumstances just enumerated are uniform in their occurrence.

34. *New operation for the cure of Ptosis.*—R. T. HUNT, Esq., assistant surgeon to the Manchester Institution for curing diseases of the eye, has proposed